

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

September 5, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
IAC Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Jon Ford, Chair

Minutes

Members present: none

Members via teleconference: Karen Ellerbrook, Jon Ford, Pam Hicks, Jeff Kirk, Trevor Yager

Members absent: none

IAC staff present: Michelle Anderson, Dennis Hardin, Lewis Ricci, Rex Van Zant

1. **Approval of Agenda and June Minutes.** IAC Commissioner Jon Ford convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Due to lack of quorum present, no actions were taken during the meeting. The minutes from the June 22, 2012 meeting of the Executive Committee will be presented for approval at a special meeting of the committee prior to the start of the next meeting of the full Commission on September 14.

2. **Financial.**

a. IAC Deputy Director Michelle Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2012 end-of-year IAC budget.

b. Ms. Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2013 budget current through July 31, 2012.

c. IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci reminded the committee that the IAC contract with the State Budget Agency is up for renewal, and that the Commission has discussed the possibility of not renewing the contract due to inaccuracies by SBA over the last year. He presented a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding with SBA (attached). Mr. Ford reported that the Committee on the Future, at its last meeting, recommended that IAC continue the contract on a month-to-month basis. He asked for a consensus of the Executive Committee to recommend approval of the contract by the full Commission, and the committee agreed.

d. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) from the State Budget Agency containing instructions for compiling and submitting a budget for FY 2014. He announced his plan to submit three "change packages" to the proposed budget, one to increase funding for arts projects, one to increase funding for arts in education, and one to fund IAC's participation in the Indiana Bicentennial. Although SBA has announced that change package approvals will be a rarity, Mr. Ricci feels strongly that IAC should play a role in the Bicentennial celebration, and would like to see an arts advocate on the

planning committee now being formed. He suggested that perhaps a former Commissioner would be a worthy member of the planning committee. Indiana Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman and former congressman Lee Hamilton are the co-chairs of the planning committee.

3. Commission Issues. Mr. Ricci presented his “matrix” document (attached) that he wants to become a tool for monitoring the IAC strategic plan. He will distribute the document at the next meeting of the full Commission, and members will choose one area of the matrix with which to become involved. Mr. Ricci then reminded the committee that Commissioner Judy Hess from Corydon is serving beyond the expiration of her second term, and asked for a discussion about whether to press the Governor’s appointing staff to name a replacement before the current administration leaves office. IAC Commissioner Pam Hicks said that it should be the Governor’s duty to fill the position before his term of office ends. Ms. Anderson said that a delay in the appointment would give IAC a good opportunity to interact with the new administration. IAC Commissioner Trevor Yager liked the idea of having one vacancy on the Commission when the new administration takes office. No action was taken.

4. Partnership/Program Issues.

a. Mr. Ricci reported on the recent meeting of the ad-hoc committee which is reviewing the IAC’s grant allocation formula for the Regional Arts Partners. This was the second meeting of the committee, which is looking at various ways to provide more equity throughout the state in the amounts of funding passing through the Regional Partners to arts organizations and arts projects. The committee is comprised of Commissioners, former Commissioners, Regional Arts Partners, former Regional Arts Partners, and IAC staff. Mr. Ricci reported that the committee is looking at different ranges of grant monies that would be based on the size of the operating budget of the grantee organization, as well as the score attained by the organization in the paneling process. Also of importance is an amount of flexibility and judgment on the part of the Regional Partners, especially regarding Arts Project Support (APS) grants. Mr. Ford reported that the meeting went well and that good progress is being made. Ms. Anderson was also pleased with the meeting. Mr. Ricci wants to have the new allocation plan in place by the time of the December 7 meeting of the full Commission, to be followed by a series of public meetings with grantee organizations.

b. Mr. Ricci presented a copy of a letter of appeal (confidential) by an Individual Artist Program applicant who did not attain a panel score high enough to be awarded a grant. Mr. Yager reported that the appeal letter was considered by the Programs, Grants and Services committee at its latest meeting, and that the PGS committee voted to recommend that the decision of the review panel be upheld. The Executive Committee reached a consensus to recommend that the full Commission uphold the decision of the review panel.

c. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) explaining staff-proposed changes to the Statewide Arts Service Organization (SWASO) grants, primarily rolling SWASO funding into the pool of funds for Technical Assistance grants. SWASO grants have historically been two-year grants to a very small number of organizations, and for FY 2013 there is only one grantee. IAC staff members feel that the funds could be put to

better use by looking at state-wide technical assistance needs such as workshops on fundraising and cultural development. The proposed changes will be brought before the full Commission at its next meeting.

5. Emeritus Gathering and Gubernatorial Forum. Mr. Ricci updated the committee on the plans for a public forum in Columbus on September 14, following the quarterly business meeting of the IAC. Both major-party lieutenant governor candidates will be speaking at the event. Mr. Ricci is encouraging IAC's emeritus Commissioners to participate, and asked that all current Commissioners contact former Commissioners in their areas to encourage attendance at the public event. The Indiana Coalition for the Arts was invited to prepare three questions to be asked of both candidates, and Mr. Ricci read aloud the three prepared questions.

6. Governor's Election Race – Introduction Strategies. Mr. Ricci reminded the committee that IAC has been working diligently to present itself in a positive light before both candidates for Governor; an in-person meeting with each was held earlier in the year. Mr. Ricci asked if the Commission should attempt to schedule another meeting with each candidate, this time including members of the legislature from both parties who have been supportive of IAC's efforts in the state. Now that the campaign is in full swing, it might be difficult to get a commitment from the candidates for another meeting. IAC Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook said it would be worth the effort to pursue another meeting; Mr. Yager agreed, and encouraged the idea of bringing legislators from both sides to the table.

7. Old Business/New Business IAC Marketing and Communications Director Rex Van Zant presented a handout (attached) showing current marketing and communications efforts by IAC. Mr. Ricci reminded the committee that the Advocacy & Awareness Committee, one of IAC's standing committees for many years, was eliminated at the June 2012 meeting of the full Commission, and that advocacy efforts are now being directed by the Executive Committee. He would like to establish an advisory body that would report to the Executive Committee on advocacy issues quarterly, and thinks that former Commissioners could contribute to the advisory body.

Ms. Ellerbrook suggested that Commissioners contribute financially to IAC. Mr. Ford suggested a committee be established to study the merits of the idea.

8. Adjourn. Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their participation, and closed the meeting at 11:15 a.m.